

School Administrative Match Program Vision, Goals, and Objectives

Vision

- Assure the opportunity for eligible school children to obtain Medicaid services

Goals

- To assist children and families to access needed medical services.
- To increase the number of children receiving preventative and early detection medical services.
- To provide an effective, efficient, compliant and consistent statewide School-Based Administrative Match Program.
- To increase the number of participating providers.

Objectives

- Comply with the restrictions/conditions the CMS Guide places on reimbursement for Ad Match activities.
- Provide accountability and verification through documented outcomes.

• School Administrative Match Program Overview

Federal matching funds under Medicaid are available for the partial reimbursement of administrative activities that directly support efforts to identify and enroll potential eligibles into Medicaid and that directly support the provision of medical services covered under the state Medicaid plan.

Low-income families receive Medicaid coverage and services through the state. The pathway to services is provided by Medical Assistance Administration (MAA), a division of the Department of Social & Health Services (DSHS).

During the mid-1990s, MAA formed partnerships with school districts and Educational Service Districts because of their work with children and families. The most current Federal Guide was developed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, finalized in May 2003 and implemented in Washington State on December 1, 2003.

Through the school-MAA partnership, Medicaid eligible children have better access to health care. Healthier children are better able to learn in school.

Districts perform Medicaid related activities for children at their own expense. Through an Interlocal Agreement, districts can be reimbursed 50% of allowable costs based on the documentation of activities performed. These activities include outreach to inform low-income families about the Medicaid program and referral, coordination and monitoring of Medicaid covered services to eligible children and families.

OUTREACH includes informing families about Medicaid and services available, providing Medicaid applications and assisting to complete Medicaid applications.

REFERRAL, COORDINATION AND MONITORING to Medicaid covered services includes helping children and families access services, coordinating Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) preventive screenings, assisting with access to *Healthy Options* managed care, referring children to substance abuse and mental health services, arranging Medicaid brokered transportation and encouraging medical providers to accept Medicaid patients.

School Administrative Match Process Overview

STEP 1: School districts that choose to participate in the School Administrative Match (SAM) program, first enter into a contract with MAA referred to as an Interlocal Agreement.

STEP 2: The school district appoints a SAM Coordinator for the district. The coordinator must attend MAA training before the district may participate in the program.

STEP 3: The school district develops and submits to DSHS a Service Delivery Plan.

STEP 4: The coordinator develops a process in the district for training the staff who will participate, how the Time Study forms will be distributed, verified, collected and input into the automated system.

STEP 5: The coordinator will learn and use the capabilities of the state's automated SAM system which uses time study and cost data to generate the district's quarterly bill (A-19) for reimbursement by the state.

STEP 6: The coordinator prepares the A-19, obtains the authorized signature and submits the A-19 for reimbursement.